

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 11. Please also amend claims 1-4, 6, 8-10, and 12-16, and add new claims 17-19, as shown in the complete list of claims that is presented below.

1. (currently amended) An image recording apparatus comprising:
 - a plurality of groups of driven elements which are driven for printing of ~~pixels~~ constructing an image on a medium;
 - ~~a plurality of driving circuits which drive said driven elements~~ a driving section connected to the driven elements;
 - a memory for storing ~~a plurality of correction data for controlling the driving of each of said driven elements which is executed by said driving circuits; and~~ values for the driven elements, each correction value corresponding to a respective one of the driven elements;
 - ~~a print controller for temporarily reading out the correction data from said memory and storing prior to a printing operation and transmitting the correction data to said driving circuits after completion of the reading operation of the correction data from said memory.~~ receiving an input data signal and controlling the driving section and the memory, the print controller generating a clock signal; and
 - a connection arrangement for connecting the print controller to the driving section, the connection arrangement including a plurality of strobe signal lines that connect the print controller to the memory in addition to the driving section,
 - wherein the print controller generates print data from the input data and transfers the print data to the driving section via the connection arrangement in synchronism with the clock signal,
 - wherein the print controller generates strobe signals that are conveyed to the driving section via the strobe signal lines and that cause the driving section to drive the groups of driven elements in accordance with the print data, and

wherein the print controller reads the correction values out of the memory via the strobe signal lines and conveys the correction values to the driving section via the connection arrangement.

2. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said memory and said ~~driving circuits~~ driving section are provided in a head, and said print controller ~~temporarily~~ reads out the correction data values from said memory provided in said head and transmits the correction data values to the ~~driving circuits~~ driving section provided in the head prior to ~~the~~ a printing operation.

3. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~compressed~~ said correction data values is stored in said memory are compressed correction values,
said print controller ~~has~~ comprises a decompressing circuit for decompressing the compressed correction data values stored in said memory, and
said print controller reads out the compressed correction data from said memory and decompresses it prior to ~~the~~ a printing operation, and transmits the decompressed correction data to said driving ~~circuits~~ section.

4. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said print controller ~~has~~ comprises a compressing circuit for compressing ~~the~~ correction data values to be stored into said memory ~~and, when the correction data is stored into said memory,~~
and the correction data values are compressed by said compressing circuit and written into said memory.

5. (original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said driven elements are LED elements for emitting recording light.

6. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

said print controller is constructed so as to be connectable to an external ~~upper~~ upstream apparatus, said upstream apparatus supplying said input data to said print controller and

when a read command for reading of the correction data values is received from said ~~upper~~ upstream apparatus, said print controller reads out the correction data values from said memory and transmits it them to said upper apparatus.

7. (original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said driven elements are thermal elements.

8. (currently amended) An image recording apparatus comprising:

a plurality of groups of driven elements which are driven for printing ~~of pixels~~ constructing an image on a medium;

a driving section connected to the driven elements, the driving section including a plurality of driving circuits which drive said groups of driven elements and are partitioned into a plurality of driving groups;

a first memory for storing a plurality of correction values for the driven elements, each correction value corresponding to a respective one of the driven elements;

a print controller for receiving an input data signal and controlling the driving section and the memory, the print controller generating a clock signal; and

a connection arrangement for connecting the print controller to the driving section, the connection arrangement including a plurality of strobe signal lines that connect the print controller to the memory in addition to the driving section,

wherein the print controller generates print data from input data and transfers the print data to the driving section via the connection arrangement in synchronism with the clock signal,

wherein the print controller comprises a CPU for sending control which generates strobe signals through a plurality of control that are conveyed to the driving section via the strobe signal lines to said cause the driving circuits of said driving group corresponding to said signal line so as to make said driving circuits operative every group

~~upon printing operation and sending print data to each of said driving circuits through a print data line section to drive the groups of driven elements in accordance with the print data;~~

~~a memory for storing correction data for correcting the driving of each of said driven elements; and~~

~~wherein said print controller further comprises an auxiliary second memory, and reads the correction values out of the first memory via the strobe signal lines for temporarily storing said temporary storage of the correction data from said memory under a control of said CPU so as to supply said correction data of each of said driven elements stored values in said the second memory, to said and thereafter conveys the correction values to the driving mechanisms section via the connection arrangement prior to the a printing operation, operation.~~

~~wherein said correction data is sent from said auxiliary memory to said driving circuits through said print data lines under a control of said CPU.~~

9. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said first memory has control terminals for controlling the operation of said first memory and data input/output terminals, and said control terminals and said input/output terminals are connected to said ~~control~~ strobe signal lines, ~~respectively~~.

10. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said first memory is subjected to an operation control for writing said correction data values into said first memory and reading out said correction data values into said auxiliary second memory by the ~~control~~ strobe signals which are supplied from said ~~control~~ strobe signal lines to said control terminals ~~connected to said signal lines~~.

Claim 11 (cancelled).

12. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said first memory is an EEPROM.

13. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the print controller further comprising comprises a compressing circuit for compressing said correction ~~data~~ values which ~~is~~ are stored in said first memory, and wherein said CPU decompresses said compressed correction ~~data~~ read values values out from said first memory and supplies the decompressed ~~data~~ values to said driving ~~circuits~~ section through said ~~auxiliary~~ second memory and ~~said print data lines~~ connection arrangement.

14. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said first memory has a data input terminal, a data output terminal, a selection terminal, and a clock terminal, and
each of said ~~control~~ strobe signal lines is connected to ~~each of~~ a respective one of the terminals.

15. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the ~~control~~ strobe signal lines other than ~~the control~~ strobe signal lines which are link-driven are connected to said selection terminal and said clock terminal of said first memory.

16. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said first memory further has a write inhibition terminal, and
said CPU transmits a permission signal to permit the driving of said driven elements to said driving ~~circuits~~ section and said write inhibition terminal of said first memory and, when the driving of said driven elements is permitted by said permission signal, the writing operation to said first memory is inhibited.

17. (new) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the print controller conveys the correction values to the driving section in synchronism with the clock signal.

18. (new) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the driven elements are light-emitting elements, and the correction values are used to compensate for variations in light emission of the light-emitting elements.

19. (new) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the print controller comprises a RAM that temporarily stores the correction values that are read out of the memory before they are conveyed to the driving section.